

Draft

HiLine
Resource Management Plan
and
Environmental Impact Statement

HiLine District Office
Great Falls, Montana

March 2013

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1. Responsible Agencies

Bureau of Land Management (Lead Agency)
U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (Cooperating Agency)
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Cooperating Agency)
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Cooperating Agency)
Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (Cooperating Agency)
Blaine County, Montana (Cooperating Agency)
Phillips County, Montana (Cooperating Agency)
Valley County, Montana (Cooperating Agency)
Montana Cooperative State Grazing Districts (Cooperating Agency)
 Badlands
 Buggy Creek
 North Blaine
 North Phillips
 North Valley
 South Phillips
 Wayne Creek
 Willow Creek

2. Draft (X) Final ()

3. Type of Action: Administrative (X) Legislative ()

4. Abstract: This Draft Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement describes and analyzes five alternatives for managing public lands and federal minerals managed by the Bureau of Land Management HiLine District in Blaine, Chouteau, Glacier, Hill, Liberty, Phillips, Toole, and Valley counties in northern Montana. The HiLine District includes about 2.4 million acres of BLM land and 3.8 million acres of federal mineral estate. The five alternatives are: Alternative A (current management or the “no action” alternative), Alternatives B, C, D, and Alternative E (the preferred alternative). The alternatives address the following eleven planning issues: renewable and nonrenewable energy, land ownership adjustment, healthy ecosystems and multiple use, cultural and paleontological resources, motorized travel, access, wildlife habitat, special designations, fire, and wilderness characteristics.

5. Comments on the Draft Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement must be received within 90 days from publication of the Notice of Availability in the Federal Register by the Environmental Protection Agency. The close of the comment period will be announced in a news release, newsletter, and on the internet at <http://blm.gov/8qkd>.

6. For further information, contact:

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Acronyms

ACEC	Area of Critical Environmental Concern	FLPMA	Federal Land Policy and Management Act
AIM	Assessment, Inventory and Monitoring	FLTFA	Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act
AMD	Acid Mine Drainage	FMP	Fire Management Plan
AML	Abandoned Mine Land	FMU	Fire Management Unit
AMP	Allotment Management Plan	FORVIS	Forest Vegetation Information System
ANS	Aquatic Nuisance Species	FRCC	Fire Regime Condition Class
APD	Application for Permit to Drill	FY	Fiscal Year
APHIS	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service	GHG	Greenhouse Gas
AQRV	Air Quality Related Value	GPM	Gallons per Minute
ARM	Administrative Rules of Montana	GWP	Global Warming Potential
ARMP	Air Resource Management Plan	HAF	Habitat Assessment Framework
ARTSD	Air Resource Technical Support Document	HAP	Hazardous Air Pollutant
ASQ	Allowable Sale Quantity	HFRA	Healthy Forests Restoration Act
ATV	All-Terrain Vehicle	HMP	Habitat Management Plan
AUM	Animal Unit Month	HUC	Hydrologic Unit Code
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs	IMP	Interim Management Policy
BLM	Bureau of Land Management	IMPROVE	Interagency Monitoring of Protected Visual Environments
BMP	Best Management Practice	INPS	Invasive Non-Native Plant Species
BNGPA	Bowdoin Natural Gas Project Area	IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
BTU	British Thermal Unit	IPM	Integrated Pest Management
CASTNet	Clean Air Status and Trends Network	JEDI	Jobs and Economic Development Impact
CBM	Coalbed Methane	KGRA	Known Geothermal Resource Area
CBNG	Coalbed Natural Gas	LMF	Landscape Monitoring Framework
CCF	Hundred Cubic Feet	LND	Lands Not Designated
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality	LU	Land Utilization
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	LWCF	Land and Water Conservation Fund
CMR	Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge	MAAQs	Montana Ambient Air Quality Standards
COA	Condition of Approval	MBF	Thousand Board Feet
COE	Corps of Engineers	MBOGC	Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation
CRP	Conservation Reserve Program	MCF	Thousand Cubic Feet
CSP	Concentrating Solar Power	MEI	Maximally Exposed Individual
CSU	Controlled Surface Use	MFISH	Montana Fisheries Information System
DEQ	Department of Environmental Quality	MFP	Management Framework Plan
EA	Environmental Assessment	MFWP	Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks
EE/CA	Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis	MLA	Mineral Leasing Act
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement	MLE	Most Likely Exposure
EO	Executive Order	MLP	Master Leasing Plan
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	MLRA	Major Land Resource Area
ERC	Energy Release Component	MMBF	Million Board Feet
ERMA	Extensive Recreation Management Area	MMCF	Million Cubic Feet
ES&R	Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation	MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
ESA	Endangered Species Act	MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
ESP	Electrical Submersible Pump	MPDES	Montana Pollution Discharge Elimination System
FAMS	Facility Asset Management System	MTPY	Metric Tons Per Year
FAR	Functioning at Risk	MWRA	Montana Wetland Riparian Association
FEAST	Forest Economic Analysis Spreadsheet Tool	MZ	Management Zone
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency	NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
		NADP	National Acid Deposition Program

NAGPRA	Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act	R&PP	Recreation and Public Purposes
NAWMP	North American Waterfowl Management Plan	RAC	Resource Advisory Council
NCSS	National Cooperative Soil Survey	RAWS	Remote Automated Weather Station
NEI	National Emission Inventory	RfC	Reference Concentration
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act	REL	Reference Exposure Level
NESHAP	National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants	RFD	Reasonable Foreseeable Development
NF	Nonfunctioning	RIPS	Range Improvement Project System
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act	RMP	Resource Management Plan
NIFC	National Interagency Fire Center	RMZ	Recreation Management Zone
NPS	Nonpoint Source	ROS	Recreation Opportunity Spectrum
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service	SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
NREL	National Renewable Energy Laboratory	SLAMS	State and Local Air Monitoring Stations
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places	SMA	Surface Management Agency
NSHT	National Scenic and Historic Trails	SMU	Soil Map Unit
NSO	No Surface Occupancy	SMZ	Streamside Management Zone
NSPS	New Source Performance Standards	SRMA	Special Recreation Management Area
NTL	Notice to Lessee	SRP	Special Recreation Permit
NTT	National Technical Team	SVR	Standard Visual Range
OHV	Off-Highway Vehicle	T&E	Threatened and Endangered
PC	Progressive Cavity	TCP	Traditional Cultural Property
PFC	Proper Functioning Condition	TDS	Total Dissolved Solids
PFYC	Potential Fossil Yield Classification	TLS	Timing Limitation Stipulation
PGM	Photochemical Grid Modeling	TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
PILT	Payment in Lieu of Taxes	URF	Unit Risk Factor
PM	Particulate Matter	USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
PPB	Parts per Billion	USDI	United States Department of the Interior
PPJV	Prairie Pothole Joint Venture	USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
PPM	Parts per Million	USGS	United States Geological Survey
PPQ	Plant Protection and Quarantine	UTM	Universal Transverse Mercator
PSQ	Probable Sale Quantity	VOC	Volatile Organic Compound
PV	Photovoltaic	VRM	Visual Resource Management
QRA	Qualified Resource Area	WMU	Wolf Management Unit
		WQRP	Water Quality Restoration Plan
		WSA	Wilderness Study Area
		WUI	Wildland Urban Interface